

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4772
ANSWERED ON:30.03.2017
Health Hazards to Coal Mine Workers
Jardosh Smt. Darshana Vikram

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study on the work related health hazards occurring to coal mine workers during the last one decade;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the existing welfare policies being implemented for coal mine workers;
- (d) whether the Union Government in consultation with States, is going to frame a comprehensive policy for welfare of coal workers, viz. for upkeep of their health, compensation amount and disbursal and general welfare of their families; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER, NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a & b) : CIL has informed that they have conducted a comprehensive R&D project with help of CSIR – CIMFR, Dhanbad on "Studies for determination of Free Silica (alpha quartz) content in respirable air borne dust in coal mines and preparation of data bank of free silica & other minerals present in dust as well as coal in different coalfields areas", since Free Silica (alpha quartz) content in respirable air borne dust in coal mines can be construed as health hazards to employees working in coal mines.

(c) : Every effort is being made to improve the living condition of coal miners. In order to create sense of belonging and involvement in work, top priority is given by the management of CIL and its subsidiaries to provide facilities to mine workers/employees i.e. Housing facilities, Water Supply, Education Facilities, Medical Facilities, Statutory Welfare Facilities (like canteen, rest shelters pit head baths etc.), Non-Statutory Welfare Measures and Banking Facilities.

(d & e): Under the Mines Act -1952, a set of distinctive rules covering various provisions for health & welfare was promulgated and detailed provisions are made under the Mines Rules- 1955. Statutory provisions as stipulated under the Mines Rules- 1955
